

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6277

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E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS : ENRG, NI

SUBJ : NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION REQUESTS ASSISTANCE
IN LOCATING SHORT TERM TRAINING COURSES

1. MR. D.A. BAYERO, HEAD OF REFINING AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT, PETROLEUM INSPECTORATE DIVISION, NNPC, VISITED EMBASSY TO EXPLAIN THAT, WHILE NNPC AWARE OF MANY SHORT TERM COURSES IN EXPLORATION, DRILLING AND PRODUCTION OFFERED BY ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS OIL AND GAS CONSULTANTS INTERNATIONAL(OGCI) OF TULSA, THE NNPC IS NOW INTERESTED IN SENDING SEVERAL OF ITS ENGINEERS TO COURSES OF SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS DURATION IN (A) MANAGEMENT AND (B) ALL ASPECTS OF REFINERY OPERATIONS, INCLUDING POLLUTION CONTROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY. INFORMATION ON SHORT COURSES OF THIS KIND IS NOT READILY AVAILABLE AND BAYERO REQUESTED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE.

2. INSPECTORATE DIVISION IS CHARGED WITH ALL GOVERNMENT REGULATORY FUNCTIONS INVOLVING PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, APPLYING TO BOTH NNPC AND FOREIGN OIL COMPANIES. SPECIFIC MOTIVE BEHIND BAYERO'S REQUEST IS NEED FOR INSPECTORATE TO DEVELOP CAPABILITY TO MONITOR AND INSPECT OPERATIONS OF EXISTING PORT HARCOURT REFINERY AND TWO NEW REFINERIES AT WARRI AND KADUNA WHICH ARE DUE TO COME ON STREAM IN MID-78 AND MID-79. EMPHASIS THUS ON UNDERSTANDING ENOUGH ABOUT REFINERY PROCESSES TO BE ABLE TO REGULATE THEM RATHER THAN ON COMMERCIAL OPERATION OF REFINERIES.

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3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING SUITABLE COURSES. SPECIFICALLY:

A) CAN USG HELP, I.E., DOES DOE/FERC OFFER ANY IN-HOUSE TRAINING IN REGULATORY PROGRAMS COVERING REFINING FACILITIES?

B) CAN OGCI OFFER SUCH PROGRAMS OR SUGGEST WHO DOES? OGCI
ADDRESS IS 320 SOUTH BOSTON STREET
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74103,
TELEPHONE (918) 587-8668.

C) WOULD ONE OF MAJOR U.S. REFINING COMPANIES BE ABLE TO HELP?
NNPC SENT ENGINEERS TO COURSES OFFERED BY TEXACO AND TOTAL IN
1975, BUT THESE WERE FOR ONLY ONE YEAR. IT CONCEIVABLE THAT

NNPC COULD COMBINE SHORT EXPOSURE TO IN-HOUSE TRAINING WHICH
OIL COMPANY OFFERS ITS OWN ENGINEERS WITH ADDITIONAL FEW WEEKS
IN WASHINGTON AT FERC.

D) ARE THERE ANY UNIVERSITIES WHICH OFFER SIX TO EIGHT WEEK
COURSES IN EITHER MANGEMENT OR FEFINERY OPERATIONS?

4. EMBASSY HAS SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF COMBINING VISIT OF
ONE OR TWO NNPC ENGINEERS TO U.S. FOR SHORT TERM TRAINING WITH
IVG PROGRAM. LATTER WOULD ENABLE NNPC ENGINEERS TO VISIT
REFINERIES IN SEVERAL U.S. CITIES, PLUS VISIT WASHINGTON FOR
DISCUSSIONS OF HOW USG IS INVOLVED WITH REGULATION OF REFINERY
OPERATIONS, WHILE NNPC WOULD PICK UP COST OF TRAINING COURSE
AND PER DIEM WHICH WOULD FOLLOW 30 DAY IVG. BAYERO GIVEN IVG
APPLICATION FORMS AND INDICATED DEFINITE INTEREST.
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